

THE CAMBRIDGE

FALL 2021 ISSUE 2, VOL. 4 A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

LIFE

THECAMBRIDGELIFE.ORG

In This Issue...

Cambridge Parks
and Open Spaces

Universal Design

City's Human
Services Programs

Compost Program,
New Waste
Programs,
and Waste
Reduction

Promoting Safe
and Sustainable
Transportation

A Glance at City Programs and Services – Old and New



A
Historic
Look at
Fresh Pond
Page 9

Important Health Reminders

What You Can Do To Stop the Spread of Covid-19

With the emergence of the highly contagious Delta variant and the potential for fully vaccinated people to transmit the virus, the Cambridge Public Health Department recommends that residents:

- **Get a third dose of vaccine or booster shot**, eight months after you have completed your first two doses, as recommended by the CDC.
- **Wear a mask indoors** when outside your home, even if you're vaccinated or already had COVID-19.
- **Avoid riskier activities** if you or household members are unvaccinated, such as dining indoors or attending crowded events.
- **Get tested** if you have been exposed or have symptoms associated with COVID -19, even if symptoms are mild. "Exposure" is considered having contact within 6 feet of an infected individual for a total of 15 minutes or more. The City of Cambridge offers free testing regardless of symptoms.
- **Stay home** from work if you are having symptoms associated with COVID -19 and get tested.

Effective September 3, 2021, the City of Cambridge is requiring the use of face masks in all indoor public places for everyone 2 and older.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated residents should continue following all CDC recommended precautions. For the latest information on Cambridge guidance, City-run testing services, and vaccination, visit CambridgeMA.gov/COVID19 or Cambridgepublichealth.org.

Don't Like the Flu? Get Vaccinated

The Cambridge Public Health Department strongly encourages residents to get a flu vaccine this fall.

While most people who get the flu will recover in a few days to less than two weeks, some people develop life-threatening complications. Those at greatest risk for serious illness from the flu include older adults (age 65+), children under 5, pregnant women, and people with certain medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, or chronic lung disease. Residents are invited to get a free flu shot this fall at Cambridge Public Health Department's annual flu clinics. Flu vaccine will be available for adults and children as young as 6 months. For Cambridge flu clinic dates and locations, visit cambridgepublichealth.org. The Health Department expects that the flu vaccine will also be widely available at local pharmacies and doctors' offices. Get vaccinated (age 12+) even if you have already had COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccine is the best way to prevent severe or even life-threatening symptoms.



City Manager's Message

This edition of The Cambridge Life focuses on the many exceptional services City staff provide to our residents daily. While the COVID-19 pandemic forced many programs to go virtual or temporarily pause, I am excited to reintroduce some of the incredible services, programs, and initiatives we offer that help make the City a great place to live, work, or visit.

Cambridge is known for the healthy, safe, and innovative designs of our parks and playgrounds, and many of our playgrounds incorporate elements of Universal Design (UD). We are completing construction of a new playground at Danehy Park that demonstrates UD principles in every feature, taking the City's commitment to inclusivity further and reimagining how we think about built spaces.

Another critical commitment of the City is to housing affordability. From affordable housing opportunities for the unhoused, to eviction prevention assistance for tenants, to affordable rental housing available through a range of housing providers, and

homeownership programs, Cambridge supports a wealth of resources and services that are offered through City departments.

The funding approved by the City Council in the FY22 Budget, combined with anticipated FY22 Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, are estimated to total over \$32.35 million in direct financial support for the Affordable Housing Trust in FY22. Through FY21, the City has appropriated more than \$246 million to invest in affordable housing initiatives. These funds have been used to preserve or create more than 3,095 affordable units to date. I encourage you to learn about the many housing programs available to you.

Finally, the City continues to monitor and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We still offer free COVID-19 testing, have reinstated an indoor mask requirement for all public places, and strongly encourage people to receive a COVID-19 vaccine – the best available tool we have to beat this virus. If you have yet to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, please



City Manager Louis A. DePasquale

check out our website, **Cambridgema.gov/covid19** or speak with your primary care provider to answer any questions you may have about the vaccine.

As always, you are welcome to send me your feedback or ideas by calling my office at 617-349-4300 or emailing me at **citymanager@cambridgema.gov**. My love and dedication to Cambridge have been an everyday part of my life, and I am committed to ensuring that Cambridge is the best possible place for our residents to live, work, and raise a family.

Louis DePasquale



Contents

- 2-3** Cambridge Parks and Open Spaces
- 4-5** Universal Design
- 6-8** City's Human Services Programs
- 9** A Historic Look at Fresh Pond
- 10** Making Cambridge Streets Safer for All Users
- 12-15** Compost Program, New Waste Programs, and Waste Reduction
- 20** City Energy Programs

Cover: This fall, a new playground will open at Danehy Park that demonstrates Universal Design principles in every feature. Learn more on pg. 5. Photo, courtesy of Mitch Ryerson.



CAMBRIDGE PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

“ Cambridge contains over 80 parks, playgrounds, and open spaces that serve as vital spaces for neighbors to gather, kids to play, and for all to get out and enjoy some fresh air. While each park is unique, they all offer space for recreation, enjoying nature, and building community. In this issue, we highlight the newly opened Timothy J. Toomey Park and the soon to open Universal Playground at Danehy Park.

”

New Toomey Park Opens in East Cambridge



Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. Park is the newest City park to open in East Cambridge at 71 Rogers Street, between Second and Third Streets. Designed by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Toomey Park is the first of three new parks to open and is built on land transferred to the City and funded through a zoning agreement with Alexandria Real Estate. Through a unanimous vote of the City Council, this new 2-acre park was named for Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., who has served in public office for over 35 years as a member of the Cambridge City Council, Cambridge School Committee, and as a State Representative.

Interconnected Play Areas

The park contains interconnected areas along a sloping hill that form a “play district” on the eastern side providing various play experiences for children of different ages and abilities. These include a tot area with animal play sculptures, basket swings, wood climbing structure, and slides. Perched atop the hill is a striking play sculpture that provides for both imaginative play and quiet space.

Dog Run

On the opposite end of the park, a newly constructed dog run replaces the temporary facility previously operating at the site, and includes a drinking fountain, and shaded benches.

Park Green and Loop Path

A flatter field area for informal sports like pickup soccer matches is surrounded by a paved loop path where park visitors can go for a stroll. A sloped lawn area next to the field makes for a great place to lay out in the sun, read on a nice afternoon, or go sledding in the winter.

Picnic and Seating Areas

Three picnic areas under pergolas are located along the park path, and benches are located throughout the park.

Trees and Urban Forest

Over 150 new trees were planted as a part of this project. These included several larger trees that were sited in different areas around the park to provide shade at the outset as the rest of the tree canopy at the site grows in.

Toomey Park is open from Dawn to Dusk. Metered parking is available on Second Street or Rogers Street. (Please do not park in the American Twine Office parking lot). Bicycle parking is located around the edges of the park. Publicly accessible restrooms are available at the 75 Binney Street building across from the park, near the atrium space, mid-block on Rogers Street.

“I’m very humbled and honored for the recognition of service, but more importantly, the opportunity I’ve had to serve the Cambridge community. The opening of this beautiful park is the culmination of neighborhood residents’ advocacy for open space, the hard work of my fellow City Councillors and City officials, and the donation of this land from Alexandria Real Estate. This is a grand achievement for East Cambridge and our community as a whole.”

– City Councillor
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.

For a guide to Cambridge’s parks, playgrounds, and open spaces, visit: Cambridgema.gov/parksguide.

OPEN SPACE PLANNING

We Want to Hear from You!

Our parks and open spaces play an important role in the quality of community life in Cambridge. As our open space system evolves, we want to ensure that changes over time reflect our community’s values.

This fall, the City’s Community Development Department will be leading an open space planning process to guide future work related to parks and open space in Cambridge. We will examine our open space system through an equity lens to assess priorities based on multiple criteria, including distribution and access, park conditions, and environmental and public health benefits. It will incorporate analysis and recommendations from the City’s Urban Forest Master Plan and Climate Change Preparedness and Resilience Plan.

In preparation for this process, we’d like to learn more about how people who live, work, or study in Cambridge use and enjoy Cambridge parks.

Please take our short survey at Cambridgema.gov/openspacesurvey.



Universal Design Playground to Open at Danehy Park



This fall, a new playground will open for the community to enjoy at Danehy Park. Located between Field Street and the Briston Arms residential complex, the 30,000 square foot play area is the first playground in Cambridge to fully incorporate Universal Design (UD) - the concept that all parts should be as usable as possible,

Sensory Exploration

The Sensory Walk Zone features a pathway designed with bands of crushed stone, concrete, and granite pavers. Whether or not someone uses a mobility device, they will experience tactile and auditory responses from the changing textures. There is also a music area that produces rain and

walls and the interior of a play structure. Located off the Sensory Walk Zone, “Pipe Dreams” continues a multi-sensory experience for all ages. The play tunnel, designed by middle and high school students at NuVu Studio in Central Square, has smooth wooden planks that curve and undulate, window features, and handholds that invite play.

“Cambridge is known for the healthy, safe, and innovative designs of our parks and playgrounds, and many of our playgrounds incorporate elements of Universal Design. By constructing a playground that demonstrates UD principles in every feature, we are taking the City’s commitment to inclusivity further and reimagining how we think about built spaces.” – Cambridge City Manager Louis A. DePasquale

without changes, by everyone. In addition to physical accessibility, UD takes sensory, cognitive, and emotional abilities into consideration to create an environment that is welcoming to all people to the greatest extent possible.

Interconnected Active Play

The UD Playground has several areas that encourage visitors to interact with each other, including the Swing Zone, Spin Zone, and Climbing Slope. The Splash Pad accommodates a wide range of ages and abilities.

The Junior Play Area features a train-shaped play structure with various climbing features and a double slide. The Senior Play Area includes a tower, climbing ladder and wall, sliding bars and slide, and a talk-tube network that communicates messages to different parts of the structure. Both play areas accommodate people of all ages who use mobility devices, and both reflect details of Danehy Park’s history as the former site of the New England Brick Company.

chime sounds. Plantings on either side of the pathway engage the senses of smell, sight, and touch.

The playground’s “Sensory Hilltop” is reached through an accessible, labyrinth-style pathway. The Hilltop’s wooden features, designed by Cambridge artist Mitch Ryerson, are constructed from Black Locust wood, which is resistant to rot and splintering. These include log steppers, a log climber, and a central wooden structure. A wooden marimba invites visitors to experiment with sound, and animal-shaped engravings invite tactile exploration. A “Scentsation” vine provides shade and the smell of honeysuckle.

Artistic Partnerships

In addition to Ryerson’s work, two other public art installations, created through the City’s Percent-for-Art program, enhance the playground’s vibrancy. The colorful paintings of Dominic Michael Killiany, a prolific local artist with autism, enliven the playground’s

Sustainable Design

In addition to inclusive play features, sustainability was a priority in design. Natural and recycled materials were incorporated as much as possible, and over 60 new trees were planted across the play area. The “Sensory Hilltop’s” Black Locust wood was harvested from trees removed during the City’s Glacken Slope Restoration Project.

The UD Playground was designed by the firm Weston & Sampson Design Studio. A Focus Group, comprised of Cambridge parents, abutters, local educators, and City staff, worked closely with the design team to solicit community feedback and develop park concepts.

For more information about the Universal Design Playground, visit Cambridgema.gov/UDPlayground.

Photos: Some images courtesy of Mitch Ryerson.

City's Human Services Programs Support Residents of all Ages

The Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP) provides a wide range of services that touch almost every sector in the city: from newborns to seniors, from school-aged children to homeless families, from non-profit organizations to local employers. Below is an overview of a selection of DHSP programs and initiatives happening this fall.



DHSP provides a wide range of services that touch almost every sector in the city: from newborns to seniors, from school-aged children to homeless families, from non-profit organizations to local employers.

Preschool Lottery

DHSP has 7 high-quality preschools in Cambridge that are full-time programs, operating 5 days a week, year-round. DHSP will be accepting applications for the 2022-2023 Preschool Lottery in October. Cambridge children are eligible for this lottery if they were born between April 1, 2018 and December 1, 2019. Learn more: Cambridgema.gov/preschoollottery



Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership

This program works in Cambridge to develop an easily accessed, aligned, and coherent system of affordable, high-quality education and care that begins with prenatal care and extends through

third grade. Sustained by DHSP and Cambridge Public Schools, the Partnership serves as Cambridge's central coordinating hub for early childhood information and quality improvement and includes school and community-based early childhood education, home visiting, and family support and engagement. The Partnership provides scholarship programs for three and four year-olds from low-income families and an intensive program quality improvement system for community-based early learning centers.

Afterschool Programming

DHSP offers a variety of afterschool programming to children in grades JK-5. There are 7 afterschool programs that operate in elementary schools across Cambridge. These programs focus on project-based learning and activities designed to improve children's personal development. Eleven Community Schools offer a range of culturally-responsive educational and enrichment afterschool activities in a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment. Additionally, the King Open Extended Day (KOED) Program is designed to link the school-day and afterschool experiences for children and families enrolled at the King Open School. It also supports home-based child care providers and offers free professional development workshops and college courses for teachers in Cambridge early learning centers.

Youth Centers

The Cambridge Youth Programs (CYP) Pre-Teen / Middle School Programs serve Cambridge youth in grades 4-8. CYP offers diverse, high quality programs that promote leadership and youth development through enrichment activities, unique experiences,

and opportunities to develop relationships with adults and peers. In addition to the CYP Pre-Teen/ Middle School Afterschool Programs, the Frisoli, Gately, Moses, and Russell Youth Centers offer an evening program for teens ages 14-19. The Moore Youth Center is the only facility that provides programming exclusively to teens (ages 14-19) five days a week from 2-9:30 p.m.

Center for Families (CFF)

This program provides families with children, prenatal to age eight, with universal strength-based parenting education and support, activities that promote the parent-child relationship, programs that promote early childhood development, home visiting, programs specifically for fathers through Cambridge Dads, and access to information, resources, and support. Center staff speak 10 different languages and reflect the linguistic, racial, and cultural diversity of Cambridge in order to ensure that all families can access family support services. CFF's Baby University, an intensive, 14-week family support series provides participants with parent education workshops, parent/child playgroups, home visits, and general family support.



The War Memorial Recreation Center

Located at 1640 Cambridge Street, the Center includes the Field House, an indoor track, a multi-purpose room, basketball gymnasium, weight room, and 3 swimming pools. The War Memorial will reopen to the public in fall 2021 following a closure for improvements and repairs.

The Cambridge Program

This program serves youth and adults with special needs has three components during the academic year focused on wellness. The Monday and Wednesday evening Fitness Program supports adults with special needs ages 18 – 65 to develop individual comprehensive fitness plans and offers fitness activities, weight training, and discussions around healthy eating. On Tuesday evenings, participants go bowling. The Saturday Recreation Program is open to participants ages 8 and over, and offers a range of fun and educational activities, including swimming, cooking, nutrition, drama, fitness, and art. Participants can also train to compete in the Special Olympics.



Office of Workforce Development (OWD)

This program offers a range of employment programs for teens and adult residents. This September, OWD kicked off the 26th cycle of Cambridge Works, a transitional jobs program for 18-35 year-olds who experience barriers to employment. Additionally, any resident 18 and over can work with a career counselor through OWD's Cambridge Employment Program, which offers free career counseling, interview preparation, and resume development, with a focus on low-income residents.

For more information about these programs:

Visit: Cambridgema.gov/DHSP

Call: 617-349-6200

Email: askdhsp@Cambridgema.gov

College Success Initiative (CSI)

This program serves students and families underrepresented in higher education, including American Born Black and Latino students, students of color, immigrant students, adult learners, those who are the first-generation in their families to attend college, and students from households with limited incomes. CSI coordinates a network of partners and provides college success coaching to students enrolled at Bunker Hill Community College and UMass Boston.

Senior Services / COA

This fall, the Cambridge Council on Aging (COA) will continue to offer a wide range of virtual classes, programs, and services (including health, fitness, and wellness). The Cambridge Senior Center (806 Massachusetts Ave.) and the North Cambridge Senior Center (2050 Massachusetts Ave.) will be open to the public on a limited basis each week. Additionally, COA staff will continue to support seniors through weekly Phone Assurance calls.

Cambridge Taxi Discount Coupon Program

Taxi discount coupons, funded by the City of Cambridge, are offered free of charge to Cambridge seniors and residents with disabilities.

Passengers must register in advance for the program by contacting Council on Aging (COA) at 617-349-6220, if age 60 or older, or by contacting the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) at 617-349-4692, if under the age of 60 and providing documentation of disability and proof of Cambridge residency. For an accessible Cambridge taxicab, call Accessible Cambridge Taxi (ACT) at 1-888-872-6721.

Community Learning Center

Celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, the Center offers a variety of programs to adult learners this fall, including Bridge to College, 6 levels of English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses (ranging from Basic Literacy to Intermediate levels), the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program, and the Adult Basic Education (HiSET / GED Preparation) Program. Most programs will continue to meet virtually, with some in-person and hybrid (in-person and online) learning opportunities.

Fuel Assistance Program

This program assists low-income households in Cambridge and Somerville with winter heating costs (heat and electric bills) incurred between November 1st and April 30th. Renters and homeowners in both cities are eligible to apply if they meet federal income guidelines.

Cambridge STEAM Initiative

A collaborative partnership between the City of Cambridge, Cambridge Public Schools, and Cambridge Public Library, The Cambridge STEAM Initiative is continuing to support organizations and programs that provide high quality STEAM experiences to our residents, families, and young people. The STEAM Initiative is spearheading Math Matters for Equity, a Family Policy Council project that brings together the efforts of MathTalk, Tutoring Plus, and the Young People's Project as well as other City and CPS partners to co-design and install a MathTrail in The Port neighborhood, in collaboration with area residents. In October, the STEAM Initiative will join organizations across the state to celebrate STEM week through programming and events.

The Hive

This hub for the Cambridge STEAM Initiative opened in July 2021 at Cambridge Public Library after its official opening was delayed due to closures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Find It Cambridge Online Resource Guide

Learn more about events, programs, and services offered across the Cambridge community on Find It Cambridge at finditcambridge.org.



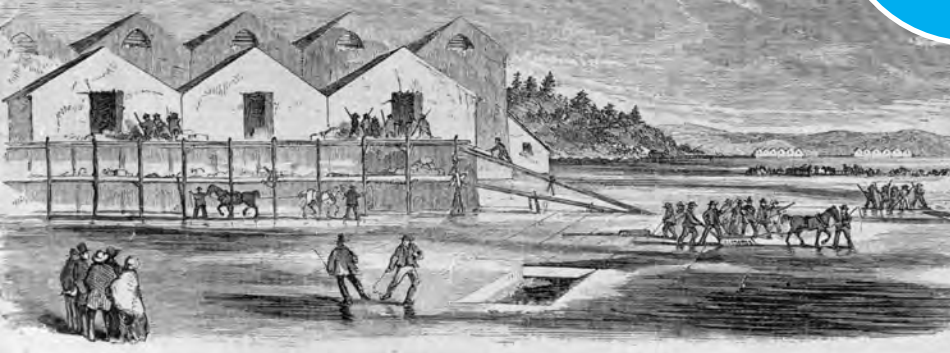
For more information about these programs:

Visit: Cambridgema.gov/DHSP

Call: 617-349-6200

Email: askdhsp@Cambridgema.gov

A Historic Look at Fresh Pond



(Above): Ice cutting at Fresh Pond; Courtesy Boston Athenaeum. Kingsley Park overlook; Cambridge Historical Commission Postcard Collection. (Below): Fresh Pond Hotel ca. 1845; CHC History Cambridge Collection.

From the colonial period through the early 19th century, Cambridge did not have the coordinated water system that it has today. Homes and businesses relied on private wells fed by natural springs or ground water. Cambridge residents and visitors enjoyed Fresh Pond and its surrounding woodlands as their rural playground, even as two successful businesses operated there.

The Fresh Pond Hotel

Jacob Wyeth's Fresh Pond Hotel opened in 1797 and was an immediate success. Wealthy locals and Harvard students came to swim, fish, hunt waterfowl, and rent small boats. Hotel guests enjoyed delicious meals prepared by Mr. Wyeth himself and served with the finest wines from his cellar. The house orchestra played softly in the background. Members of the Harvard Class of 1829 walked there on an August evening for a "a most superb supper" served with claret, champagne, and Madeira" (Jill Sinclair, *Fresh Pond: The Story of a Cambridge Landscape*, 2009). The hotel, now the site of Kingsley Park, stayed

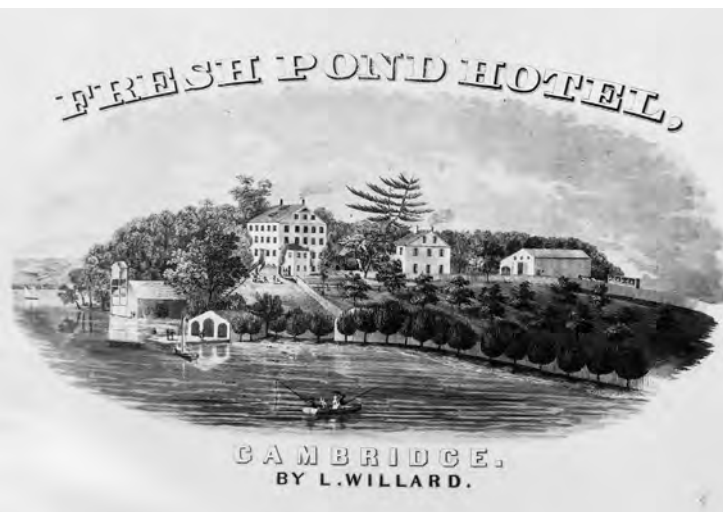
in the Wyeth family until bought by Lyman Willard in the 1840s. The hotel operated successfully until 1886, when business dropped off, and the place was forced to close—ruined, some say, by Cambridge's local liquor prohibitions.

The Frozen Water Trade: Ice Harvesting on Fresh Pond

Frederic Tudor, a Boston entrepreneur, and Nathaniel J. Wyeth, the owner of the Fresh Pond Hotel (and Jacob's son), began in the 1820s to harvest ice on Fresh Pond to be sold in tropical environs. Harvesting began in late winter, after the ice had frozen to a depth of 18" or more. Wyeth invented a horse-drawn cutter that carved out blocks of a uniform size that were then freed by men wielding heavy chisels, floated along open channels, hoisted up inclines, and lowered into Wyeth-designed wood icehouses. Tightly packed with sawdust, the ice could survive several winters in storage. A railroad was built to take the ice to Charlestown, where it was loaded onto ships equipped with Wyeth's special cargo holds and sent to southern ports, the Caribbean, and even to India. By the 1840s, the pond was crowded with competitors' ice houses.

In 1852, local investors formed the Cambridge Water Works to tap Fresh Pond. The City of Cambridge bought the private company in 1865-66. By 1894, engineers had completed the work necessary to convert Fresh Pond into a public reservoir.

Today, Fresh Pond is both a vital element in Cambridge's coordinated water delivery system and the city's largest open space. It offers a variety of landscapes, including Kingsley Park and a wildflower meadow, and activities from bird-watching and dog-walking to a meditative stroll around the pond.



Making Cambridge Streets Safer for All Users



Photo: Kyle Klein

The City's **Vision Zero** policy reinforced our ongoing commitment to ensuring the end of traffic crashes that result in serious or fatal injuries. This means that transportation projects focus on improving safety of the most vulnerable road users (people walking and biking) as a top priority. Over the last year, the City has continued to make significant efforts towards its Vision Zero goals.

20 MPH on most Cambridge Streets



In 2019, the City began the process of reducing the speed limit on most Cambridge streets from 25 mph to 20 mph. Since then, hundreds of 20 mph signs have been installed across the city. This change helps make Cambridge safer for people of all ages and abilities whether they are walking, biking, and driving. Small differences in travel speeds have a big impact on the outcomes of crashes.

Improving Crosswalks with Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons

As a part of the 4th round of the City's Participatory Budgeting (PB) process, Cambridge residents voted to award \$176,000 for Flashing Crosswalks for Safer Streets. This funding allowed the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at nine

unsignalized crosswalks in the city. RRFBs are solar-powered, push-button activated devices that alert drivers to yield to pedestrians crossing the street. These locations included Mass Ave near Magoun St; Mass Ave near Goldstar Road; Mass Ave near Allen St; Mass Ave near Church St; Mass Ave near Norfolk St; Mass Ave near Day St; Mass Ave near Pearl St.; Brattle St. near Brattle St. curve in Harvard Square; and Western Ave near Hews St.

Accessible Pedestrian Signals

The City of Cambridge values the

diversity of its residents and visitors. City departments continue to work to improve accessibility for all. One example of this work is the ongoing installation of Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) in Cambridge. APS units allow pedestrians to get audible and tactile notifications when the walk signal is on. The units are intentionally designed to help people with vision-related disabilities safely navigate intersections. The City is working on installing APS units at every signalized intersection in Cambridge.



Cycling Safety Ordinance

In fall 2020, the Cambridge City Council passed amendments to the Cambridge Cycling Safety Ordinance (CSO), which sets ambitious requirements for the installation of 25 miles of separated bike lanes within the next 5-7 years. Between May 1, 2020 and April 30, 2021, the City installed or began construction on 4.1 miles of

separated bike lanes.

The City anticipates installing or beginning construction on another 4.9 miles of separated bike lanes by April 30, 2022. This work includes finishing the installation of separated bike lanes on all segments of Massachusetts



Avenue except for the areas with overhead catenary wires for buses. Learn more at Cambridgema.gov/cycling-safety-ordinance.

Learn more about above items at Cambridgema.gov/vision-zero.

Promoting Safe and Sustainable Transportation



Cambridge has a long history of promoting safe and sustainable transportation. As roads are reconstructed, the City looks for ways to make them complete streets-- streets that work well for all modes of travel. You will see facilities that encourage walking, such as sidewalks on both sides of virtually all streets, short blocks, frequent opportunities to cross the street, and signal timing that favors pedestrians. You'll see many bicycle facilities, including bike lanes, bicycle facilities separated from moving traffic ("cycle tracks"), and bicycle parking. Traffic calming

Getting Around by Bike

Many people in Cambridge choose to use a bicycle to get around. The City promotes bicycling as an environmentally friendly form of travel - it is a key element of the official plan for reducing air pollution and addressing climate change. Bicycling also promotes healthy exercise. The City continues to work to further enhance its bicycle facility network, contribute to bicycle training in schools and elsewhere for both children and adults, and add bike share as an option for residents, visitors, and workers.

Photo: Kyle Klein



Cambridge has a long history of promoting safe and sustainable transportation.

projects are designed to keep automobile speeds down making our streets safer for all users.

Getting Around by Foot

Cambridge is compact and flat and a great city for walking. Many stores, services, work places, parks, and public transportation options are within easy walking distance. In 2018 *Prevention Magazine* named Cambridge one of the 10 Best Cities for Walking.

Getting Around by Public Transportation

Cambridge is well served by rapid transit, with 5 stops on the Red Line (Kendall, Central, Harvard, Porter, Alewife) and one stop on the Green Line (Lechmere). In addition, 31 bus routes travel in Cambridge. Transfers from rapid transit to/from bus are free with a CharlieCard, making it even easier to take transit for your entire trip.

For more information about getting around Cambridge, visit Cambridgema.gov/gettingaroundcambridge.

Also check out *Getting Around Magazine* at Cambridgema.gov/GACmagazine.



Look at Curbside Collections, DPW's Recycling Center, & How to Get Rid of It Right Tool

Curbside Waste Collections

The City's Department of Public Works (DPW) provides weekly collection of household trash, recycling, and compost. Yard waste is collected weekly, from April 1 through December 31. Other items that the City collects, but requires a permit, include: TVs, appliances, mattress & box springs, metal items (i.e. filing cabinets, bed frames) and other large items. The City also provides recycle and compost carts, and signage to assist in sorting.

Other Waste Programs

In addition to Curbside Collection, the City operates **Household Hazardous Waste** events four times per year to help residents dispose of hazardous waste that cannot go into the trash.

Recycling Center

The City's Recycling Center, located at 147 Hampshire St., is open three days per week and enables residents to safely dispose of additional items not collected through Curbside Collection or Household Hazardous Waste events, including select electronics, scrap metal, books,

fluorescent bulbs, non-alkaline batteries, and more.

Sorting waste properly is important for managing increasing waste costs, preserving our environment, and keeping our streets and sidewalks clean. To make it easier to determine how to dispose of waste, the City has a search tool, "Get Rid of It Right" to help residents quickly identify how to dispose of a specific item.

Request flyers like this (left) for your home or building through our website, Cambridgema.gov/Recycle.

If you have excess cardboard, please break it down to help make it more manageable. If you have cardboard that won't fit in the cart, nest it inside a larger box and place next to the recycle cart.

RECYCLE

METAL CANS & FOIL

GLASS BOTTLES & JARS

PLASTIC CONTAINERS

PAPER & CARDBOARD

Recycling is easy!

- ✓ Rinse containers. No food or liquids.
- ✓ Flatten or nest boxes when possible.

Do NOT Recycle:

- Do Not Bag Recyclables
- No Plastic Bags / Film, Wrappers
- No Food or Liquids
- No Clothing / Textiles (donate)
- No Hoses, Cables, Hangers, Electronics
- No Pots / Pans, Scrap Metal, Wood

Questions? Use the Get Rid of It Right tool!

Visit CambridgeMA.Gov/Recycle or download the "Zero Waste Cambridge" app.

THE WORKS

CambridgeMA.Gov/Recycle
Recycle@CambridgeMA.Gov | 617.349.4800

ZERO WASTE
CAMBRIDGE





Get Rid of It Right Tool Guides Residents on Proper Disposal of Most Items

Approximately 55% of our trash can be recycled or composted at the curb in either your blue or green cart. The remaining 45%, which can include clothing/textiles, metal, electronics, and more can be separated from the trash and disposed of properly.

The Get Rid of It Right web and mobile app includes a search feature to look up how to properly dispose of thousands of items. To access this tool, visit Cambridgema.gov/recycle



or download the City's *Zero Waste Cambridge* App. The Get Rid of It Right tool is now translated into Simplified Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Among the top items searched are:

Clothes & Textiles

Textiles make up 7% of our trash. Textiles refers to all clothing, bedding, and other fabrics. All textiles regardless of quality can be recycled or repurposed (unless they are moldy or mildewy). The City is launching a textiles recovery program later this fall to make textiles recycling simpler. Use the Get Rid of It Right tool to find the nearest drop-off location for textiles.

Electronics

Large electronics such as TVs, appliances, and air conditioners require a permit for disposal. Smaller electronic items such as cell phones, vacuums, and any other item with a cord can be dropped off at DPW's Recycle Center, which is open 3 days per week.

Mattresses & Box Springs

Mattresses and box springs must be

scheduled for collection for recycling. After searching for mattresses, you will be prompted to schedule a free collection. The components of a mattress and box spring (metal, wood, and textiles) can be recycled into new products!

Scrap Metal

Scrap metal is a broad term to describe any item made mostly of metal, such as metal shelves, furniture, hangers, and other household metal items. Scrap metal is highly recyclable and has been recycled in Cambridge for more than 100 years. Drop-off your scrap metal at the Recycle Center or schedule a collection of your large metal item through our website, Cambridgema.gov/recycle.

Polystyrene Foam (aka Styrofoam)

Unfortunately, foam is not recyclable and must be placed in the trash.

Plastic Bags

Plastic bags and films are not allowed in curbside recycling. But, some of these plastic films (i.e. plastic wrap for toilet paper, newspapers, and produce bags) can be recycled when dropped off at a grocery store or the City's Recycle Center. Last year, the Recycle Center recycled more than 400,000 plastic bags.

The Get Rid of It Right tool also allows residents to look up whether a disposal permit is required for an item, find your residential waste collection schedule (and holiday schedule), play a waste sorting game, and locate your street cleaning schedule.

Lastly, the City highly recommends residents try to give away or upcycle items before trashing them. Every week, thousands of residents use active online communities (e.g. Buy Nothing groups on Facebook, NextDoor.com, and Craigslist) to exchange, swap, or sell items and avoid landfilling them. Give your unwanted items a second life and help build a stronger community.

"We live in Cambridgeport and we compost to reduce trash and help the environment. I place compost bags in the freezer and put them out the morning of trash day, so there are no odors." - Ilana, Cambridgeport.

Cambridge Compost Program

Because food waste and compostable items make up 40% of our trash by weight, composting plays a major role in reaching our goal of reducing trash by 80% by 2050.

Curbside composting in Cambridge began in 2014 with a 600-household pilot. Today, more than 25,000 households have access to the curbside program. Furthermore, all residents have access to one of the City's five drop-off locations for composting. Since 2014, more than 10 million pounds of food waste has been diverted from the landfill from Cambridge households (and millions of pounds more from businesses and institutions that compost on their own).

"I thought I would hate it, I LOVE it. No mess, no smell."
- Susan, East Cambridge.

When we compost, the nutrients and energy from food is recovered. In fact, our food waste is sent to an anaerobic digestion facility which converts food waste to clean energy. Each year, Cambridge's food waste diversion program generates enough energy to avoid the emissions of cars driving 500,000 miles. We could avoid more than twice as many emissions annually if all eligible households in Cambridge participate.

Composting & Rodents

Since day one of planning the program, the City's top priority has been how to increase composting and reduce the impact of rodents. Because rodents require shelter, water, and food for reproduction, limiting access to food is critical. In launching this program, the City carefully selected a manufacturer for our curbside carts. Both carts

have latches or locks on them making access for rodents very difficult, and definitely more difficult than accessing a trash barrel. In the rare instance that a rat, raccoon or other rodent gains access to the compost cart, we have solutions to resolve the issue.

"One time our compost bin was knocked over and opened by raccoons. I called the Recycling Department and they installed an additional lock. We have not had any raccoon/rodent issues ever since."
-Meera, Harvard Square.

Composting helps fight climate change, reduce rodent activity, and protect the environment.

The Department of Public Works invites all residents of Cambridge to separate their food waste from their trash. If you need a kitchen bin to help sort the waste, visit DPW during open hours or request a bin online at Cambridgema.gov/recycle.

"The bins are well designed, the compostable bags keep everything neat, and the whole program seems well thought out and well implemented. Well done."
-Tim, West Cambridge.



Over the next year, the Department of Public Works (DPW) is launching three new waste programs.

Standard Trash Cart

In Spring 2022, the City will be rolling out a new standard trash cart. If your building receives trash collection from DPW, the City will replace your current trash barrels with a standard cart. Requiring the use of high-quality trash receptacles is an important tool in the City's continuing effort to improve rodent control. Furthermore, their compatibility with semi-automated collection equipment will help to reduce repetitive heavy lifting by solid waste workers and provide improved safety & ergonomics. There is also the potential to increase sidewalk accessibility by decreasing the number of barrels at the curb each week.

Textiles Recovery Program

Throughout fall 2021, the City will be working with a contractor to increase the diversion of clothing & textiles from the trash. Textiles, which includes all clean, dry clothing and household textiles – tablecloths, shoes, belts, and stuffed animals – can be recycled when placed in a



clothing donation bin. All textiles will be sorted into textiles that can go to thrift or consignment stores; textiles that can be repaired; and textiles that are to be remanufactured into a new item (i.e. insulation or padding). Donation bins will be placed at select City parks and buildings, including schools. The City's vendor will write a check to each school that hosts a bin based on how many pounds are dropped off each month. Lastly, the City is exploring whether the textiles recovery program could have a curbside collection option that enables residents to request a pick-up at their home.

Small Business Compost Pilot

In November 2021, the City will launch a Curbside Compost Pilot Program for small businesses. Similar to the Small Business Recycling Program, the goal of this pilot is to assist businesses in reducing costs while reducing our impact on climate change. The City will offer up to twice per week collection of two carts of food waste from small businesses in Cambridge. The service and carts will be provided by the City at no cost to the participating businesses.

To learn more about these programs, sign-up for DPW's Recycle Newsletter and other city notifications and newsletters at Cambridgema.gov/subscribe.

Tree Removal Ordinance

Did you know that to remove a Significant Tree in Cambridge a permit is required from the City Arborist and subject to rules and regulations under City of Cambridge's Tree Protection Ordinance, Title 8, Chapter 8.66, of the City's Municipal Code? A Significant Tree is defined as any tree that has a diameter equal to or greater than six inches (6") measured at breast height (4.5

feet above the ground). A Mitigation Payment will be required for all Significant Trees removed where an insufficient quantity of Replacement Trees is provided.

A Mitigation Payment will not be required if a Significant Tree qualifies for one of the following special circumstances: emergency situation, significant utility infrastructure projects undertaken pursuant to State or Federal regulations or programs, for City park projects, or where a tree poses significant negative impact to an adjacent Structure as defined in 8.66.030,

or for dead or dangerous trees, or a Lot is of such density with existing trees that the removal of certain Significant Trees is considered beneficial to the health of the tree canopy on the Lot.

In the event a tree had to be removed due to an emergency situation prior to receiving a permit, an application must be submitted retroactively.

For complete permit requirements, please visit the online permitting system: Cambridgema.gov/permits.



recidivism, and service utilization. According to a 2016 study, community arrests have decreased more than 50 percent since the program's implementation, while contracting with mental health services has led to an average of 94 outpatient mental health provider referrals per year.

With the Cambridge Police Department's Focused Deterrence Program, employees developed a social harm index to identify the most frequent adult offenders in the City and the most-effective strategies to be connected to wraparound services. A mathematical model is used to

Cambridge's Policed-Based Juvenile Diversion Programs

You don't have to look further than the City of Cambridge and the Cambridge Police Department to find national models for integrating behavioral health and social services with pre and post-complaint diversion.

Through the City's juvenile-focused Safety Net Collaborative Program, individuals from the police, health, schools and human service departments meet biweekly to implement a case management approach. Breaking down potential silos in government, City staff work together to identify services that can help individuals avoid problem behavior that can lead to arrests. Research has demonstrated that Safety Net has had a significant impact on juvenile arrests,

evaluate the seriousness, frequency, and recency of harmful behavior to identify this small group of serious and prolific offenders. They then are partnered with social services agencies, community leaders, and other criminal justice agencies to implement an evidence-based crime-prevention program to directly engage with offenders in an effort to disrupt their harmful behavior before they re-offend.

These collaborative, evidence-based and data-driven approaches helped the City of Cambridge level up to the What Works Cities Gold Certification in 2021. To download and review a manual that provides the template for other municipalities to implement a police-based juvenile diversion program like the Safety Net Collaborative, visit <https://camb.ma/SNManual>.



Traffic Department Services and Updates

Pay Your Parking Tickets to avoid Late Fees. The City of Cambridge has traffic regulations that help ensure that there's parking available when people need it. For example, in high-traffic areas like the squares, meters have time limits to help encourage turnover. Since March 2020, the Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department (TP+T) made a number of interim changes to how tickets were issued and the late penalties, to account for the needs of residents during COVID-19. As the City continues to re-open, TP+T will soon resume applying late penalties on unpaid parking tickets. Learn more at Cambridgema.gov/parkingtickets.

Street Occupancy Permits

Do you need to reserve parking spaces for a moving van, moving container, or dumpster? The City offers a number of Street Occupancy Permits that allow you to reserve parking spaces for specific purposes. Learn more at Cambridgema.gov/permits.

Note: Read street signs carefully when parking as some signs may indicate there is temporary parking restriction at a specific location even if that location may normally serve as Resident parking. Please respect any temporary no parking zones to avoid getting ticketed and towed.

Resident Parking Permits are required in areas designated "Parking by Permit Only." Residents may apply for Resident Parking Permits and/or Visitor Parking Permits, which may only be used by visitors. Permits must be renewed each year. The renewal season runs from January through March, but you may apply online beginning in December. Learn more at Cambridgema.gov/parking-permits.



What Are Short-Term Rentals & How Do I Apply?

In Cambridge, a Short-Term Rental is any residential dwelling unit that is rented out for a duration of less than 30 days. The Short-Term Rental section of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance was adopted in 2017 to ensure that Short-Term Rentals will not be a detriment to the character and livability of the surrounding

residential neighborhood. The Ordinance provides a mechanism to make the operation legal for Cambridge residents and to protect the safety of both the residents and renters.

Who Qualifies to Operate a Short-Term Rental?

OPERATOR-OCCUPIED: You must be the primary resident of the property and you may only rent up to 3 bedrooms within your house/unit.

OWNER-ADJACENT: You must be the primary resident of the property and own the entire building (4-family dwelling or less). You can rent out a maximum of one unit to a singular party.

How Can I Apply?

For more information about Short-Term Rentals, the required supporting documentation, and to apply for a Short-Term Rental permit, please visit Cambridgema.gov/str



What Should I Do if I See Rats?

Rodents are an unavoidable part of life in any city. The City recently launched a new program to provide inspection and rodent control treatment assistance to the exterior areas of residential properties with four or fewer units in an effort to expand rodent control efforts in the City. The City will be offering this residential rodent abatement assistance program to qualifying properties for free as part of the City's broader rodent control efforts. If you're interested, visit Cambridgema.gov/rodents to apply for inspection and treatment at your property.

The City of Cambridge is committed to confronting this problem in a variety of ways – by addressing rodent problems on public property, working to

control rodents during construction projects, enforcing sanitary codes and ordinances, and educating the public. By working together with local businesses and property owners, we can make Cambridge as free from rodents as possible.

If you see rodents, you should:

- Check your property for signs of activity like chewed barrels, rat droppings, burrows, holes dug under fences and structures like sheds and porches, clutter and debris that provides hiding places.
- Report the problem to the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) by reporting a "Rodent Sighting" via the Commonwealth Connect app or at cambridgema.gov/commonwealthconnect. You can also report by phone by calling 617-349-4899 and leaving a messaging or by emailing rodents@cambridgema.gov. Please provide as much information as possible about the location of the sighting and another other factors that might be helpful. ISD is trained in what to look for and will inspect the area and contact owners who may have an issue with harborage or trash.
- Organize with your neighbors as rats are not an individual problem. Contact ISD and get a group or neighborhood inspection.



CPL at Night by ©Robert Benson Photography for William Rawn

children's materials, technology, eResources & databases, DVDs, magazines and exciting programs for all ages. We also host major authors, performers, and exhibitions reflecting the diversity of our community.

The Tech Bar at Cambridge Public Library offers public computing, serving as a device checkout station and a basic technology advice center. Patrons at the Main Library and branch libraries can check out items from a device menu that includes laptops, tablets, e-readers, adapters, media players and microphones.

Our state-of-the-art makerspace, The Hive, is located at the Main Library and is a hub for STEAM learning, creativity, and collaboration. It provides free, hands-on learning opportunities as well as resources for personal projects to members of the

Library Services

At the Cambridge Public Library, we welcome all, inspire minds and empower community. We support a Cambridge where everyone has equitable opportunities to learn and democracy thrives. Our Main Library and six branch libraries are vibrant and dynamic community spaces offering a comprehensive collection of books, audio books,

Cambridge community.

We offer monthly delivery of library materials to Cambridge residents who are unable to visit the Library and our Library Social Worker also works one-on-one with patrons to help them connect to local services and resources. All Library locations provide access to computers, printing, and Wi-Fi, and offer spaces to read, work, and study.

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A TEMPORARY DISCOUNT ON YOUR MONTHLY BROADBAND BILL

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB) provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying low-income households.



If your household is eligible, you can receive:

- Up to a \$50/month discount on your broadband service and associated equipment rentals;
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50).

Only one monthly service discount and one device discount is allowed per household. To receive the connected device discount, consumers need to enroll in the EBB Program with a participating provider that offers connected devices. The service provider will provide the discount to the consumer.

The program will end when the fund runs out of money, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the COVID-19 health emergency, whichever is sooner.

Cambridge residents can find more information on the program, check eligibility, and enroll by visiting **getemergencybroadband.org**.



From the Source.... Protecting our Water Supply

Water conservation is very important for the resiliency and survival of our water supply. The majority of household water use comes from toilets, washing machines, showers, baths, faucets, and leaks. We can all do our part to help conserve water through a few adjustments in our daily lives:

- Turn off running water when not actively using it;
- Listen and check for leaks; use dye tablets to verify a leak;
- Ensure outside water spickets are turned off when not in use;
- When purchasing new appliances, such as dishwashers and washing machines, make sure they are “energy star” rated;
- When replacing toilets, ensure they are 1.28 gallons per flush or less;
- When replacing faucets, ensure they have an aerator/screen in the spout;
- Only purchase low flow shower heads;

- If installing an irrigation system, use only “smart” control systems as they monitor the weather and can save at least 20% of your water usage;
- Use “drip irrigation” for flower beds and plants.

For more information, visit the Water Department’s Water Conservation page, [Cambridgema.gov/waterconservation](https://www.cambridgema.gov/waterconservation).



HOW DO I REQUEST A NEW TREE PLANTING?

The City plants trees in the spring and fall. Look for tree planting stickers on the sidewalk that identify proposed locations. Tree planting requests are inspected by Forestry staff. Not all sites are suitable for a new or replacement tree. Newly planted trees must meet standards for tree well size, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) sidewalk clearance, and minimum distances from underground utilities.

To request a new or replacement tree, see this item at [Cambridgema.gov/commonwealthconnect](https://www.cambridgema.gov/commonwealthconnect).

Join Cambridge Urban Forest Friends (formerly known as Adopt-a-Tree)

Forest Friends take simple steps to help care for and protect Cambridge’s urban forest. By helping plant, water, and advocate for the trees, volunteers help the forest thrive into the future. Forest Friends contribute to the vitality of our urban forest, protect our planet, and make our City a better place to live.

Learn more at [Cambridgema.gov/forestfriends](https://www.cambridgema.gov/forestfriends).



City Energy Programs to Help You Save Money and Reduce Energy Use

The City of Cambridge offers a multitude of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs that can help, whether you rent or own.

The programs listed below are official City of Cambridge energy programs. All In Energy, the City's nonprofit partner, can provide information, answer questions and help you register for any of these City programs.

100% Green Plus Renewable Energy

All residents and businesses can join the Cambridge Community Electricity program to receive consumer-friendly electricity and support new, local solar installations.

No-cost Energy Assessment

Rent or own? Landlord or business owner? Everyone can get a no-cost Mass Save energy assessment with no-cost and discounted energy upgrades like smart thermostats, insulation, and water-saving devices.

Multifamily Retrofit Advisor

Need help with the more complicated energy projects in a 5+ multifamily building or want a free solar assessment of your building's roof? Get expert advice and help with finding contractors and quotes using the Multifamily Retrofit Advisor program.

Multifamily Solar Advisor

The solar advisor can help you get a free solar feasibility study to see how much your roof could be earning for you, understand the technical and financial considerations for going solar, and evaluate quotes from different solar installation companies.

Low-Income Community Solar

Income-eligible residents can save money on electricity bills and support solar development by joining our Sunwealth low-income community solar program.

Clean Heating and Cooling

Getting a new HVAC system or water heater? Want to explore solar hot water? The Cambridge Clean Heat program can help you, and also get you off fossil fuels in your home in the process! You can also get help finding contractors and understanding quotes using the program.

Rooftop Solar and Community Solar

Whether you want to install solar on your roof, or you want the electricity bill savings of joining community solar, you can get quotes, connect with installers and providers, and access expert

advice with our EnergySage Sunny Cambridge Solar program.

Energy Bill Check-up

Worried about high energy bills? Think you signed up with a costly third party electricity supplier? Need help getting on a discount rate or a repayment program? Use our Energy Bill Check-Up program to make sure you're not paying more than you should. They can also answer any questions you have about any of the above programs.

For more information on the above programs, visit CambridgeEnergyAlliance.org

or contact the Cambridge Energy Helpline at 617-430-6230 or cambridgehelp@allinenergy.org.



A Cambridge resident gets a new smart thermostat following an energy assessment.



Cambridge Housing Resources at a Glance



The City of Cambridge is committed to addressing the affordable housing crisis in our community and to ensuring a positive housing experience for all of our residents.

Cambridge supports a wealth of resources and services that are offered through the City Manager's Office, the Community Development Department (CDD), and the Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP).

Office of the Housing Liaison

This Office develops and promotes policies and practices to improve access to affordable housing opportunities and prevent tenant displacement. Staff work directly with all residents on various housing related issues and needs. Additional services include:

- Informing and educating all residents of Tenant Rights and Resources. Learn more at: Cambridgema.gov/tenantrights;

- Serving as point of contact for complex housing situations such as building sales and disasters;
- Offering individualized field-based case management for residents in need of intensive, ongoing support.

Housing Division

This Division offers access to rental and homeownership opportunities for low-moderate, and middle income households. City programs include:

- Inclusionary Rental Housing Program
- Middle Income Rental Program
- Financial assistance and low-interest financing

Cambridge Multi Service Center (MSC)

The MSC is a hub for gathering and distributing housing related information and serves as a primary point of contact for unhoused residents to receive services and housing assistance. Staff assist residents with:

- Applying for public benefits
- Housing Search
- Referrals to financial counseling and legal services

For more information:

Visit: Cambridgema.gov/housing
Cambridgema.gov/housingguide
Cambridgema.gov/MSCprograms

Tenant Rights

Tenants' Rights and Resources Notification Ordinance Cambridge Municipal Code Chapter 8.71

Know Your Rights, Responsibilities, and Resources!

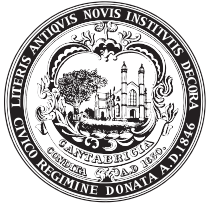
Cambridge requires that tenants are provided information regarding Tenant Rights and Resources at the start or termination of a tenancy. Learn more: Cambridgema.gov/tenantrights.

Behind on Rent? Concerned about your tenancy?

In Massachusetts, ONLY a COURT can require a tenant to leave their home.

Need Help? Please call:

Office of the Housing Liaison at 617-349-6337 or the Multi-Service Center at 617-349-6340



A publication of the Office of the City Manager
City of Cambridge
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139
617-349-4300 • Cambridgema.gov



Cambridgema.Gov



[@Cambma](https://twitter.com/Cambma)

City Manager Louis A. DePasquale

Cambridge City Council:

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone

Councillor Marc C. McGovern

Councillor Patricia M. Nolan

Councillor E. Denise Simmons

Councillor Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler

Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan

Be Informed & Stay in Touch

The City of Cambridge Subscription Center enables users to register for their preferred City alerts and newsletters. Below are some of the available offerings.

- **Daily Updates** email newsletter includes COVID-19 updates and information on other City news and programs.
- **CodeRED Alerts** are emergency notifications to subscribers via email, text and phone calls for events such as snow emergencies, evacuations, significant service disruptions.
- **Citizen Observer** is used by Cambridge Police Department for neighborhood and citywide crime notifications via email and text.
- **Trash, Recycling, & Compost Reminders**, including holiday and weather related schedule changes can be sent via email, text, or push notifications.
- **Street Cleaning Reminders**, including holiday and weather-related schedule changes, can be sent via email or text.



Cambridge City Hall Photo: Kyle Klein

Learn more & sign up for the things that matter to you at Cambridgema.gov/subscribe